

DRAFT



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MICHIGAN SENATE
WAYNE KUIPERS
STATE SENATOR

COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION, CHAIR
JUDICIARY, CHAIR
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
ENERGY POLICY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Minutes Of September 24, 2008

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Education was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2008, in room 210, Farnum Building, 125 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933.

- Senator Kuipers called the meeting to order at 2:35 P.M. The roll of the Committee was called by the Committee Clerk.

Senator Kuipers – Present
Senator Van Woerkom – Present
Senator Cassis – Present
Senator Whitmer – Present
Senator Gleason – Present

Agenda

- Approve minutes from September 17, 2008.
Motion by Senator Van Woerkom to approve the minutes from September 17, 2008, was supported by Senator Cassis.

A record roll call was ordered as follows:

Senator Kuipers – Yes
Senator Van Woerkom – Yes
Senator Cassis – Yes
Senator Whitmer – Yes
Senator Gleason – Yes

- Presentation on K-12 Urban Education Programs.
 1. Dr. Patricia Cole, Superintendent of Wyandotte Public Schools, Mary McFarlane, Principal of Roosevelt High School, and Joanna Secco, Math Teacher of Roosevelt High School presented "Wyandotte Public Schools: The Mathematics Curriculum."
 2. Aaron T. Brenner, Head of Primary Schools in KIPP Houston, presented "KIPP: A Revolutionary New School System."
 3. Nelson Smith, President of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, testified to educate the committee on the state of the public charter school movement nationally.

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- Senator Kuipers opens up testimony on Senate Bill 1450.
 1. Ann Blankenhorn representing Senate Majority Policy spoke briefly to introduce the bill.
 2. Bob Burns and Kerrie VandenBosch of the Department of Management and Budget and Office of Retirement Services are opposed to SB 1450 because both believe that the current defined benefit plan is effective.
 3. Kirk Profit, representing Washtenaw Community College, supports SB 1450 as written.
 4. Ellen Hoekstra of Capitol Services, representing Local 547 opposed SB 1450
 5. Nick Ciaramitro, representing the Michigan AFSCME Council 25, is opposed to SB 1450 because it puts benefits at risk. He also believes that federal action is needed to change the economic conditions in Michigan.
 6. Louise Somalski, representing the American Federation of Teachers-Michigan, is opposed to SB 1450 because she does not believe that community colleges should be allowed to opt out and shift the burden onto those who have not opted out.
 7. Dave Stafford of the Michigan education Association opposes SB 1450 as written and is interested in having further dialogue with the committee members regarding this bill.
 8. Robert LeFevre of Macomb Intermediate School District did not wish to speak but opposes SB 1450.
 9. Dave Ladd representing Northern Michigan Schools Legislative Association did not wish to speak but opposes SB 1450.
 10. Gary Naeyaert representing Michigan's Charter Schools did not wish to speak but supports SB 1450.
 11. Steve Clifton representing the Michigan State AFL-CIO did not wish to speak but opposes SB 1450.
 12. Jack Minore, also representing the Michigan State AFL-CIO did not wish to speak, but opposes SB 1450.
 13. Nadine A. Nosal, representing the International Union-UAW did not wish to speak, but opposes SB 1450.
- Senator Kuipers adjourned the meeting at 4:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica McCormick, Clerk

Wayne Kuipers, Chair

Date Approved